25. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide wherein, except for at least one and not more than 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, said polypeptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 1 to about 270 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 2 to about 270 of SEQ ID NO:2;
 - (c) the polynucleotide complement of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b): and
 - (d) a polynucleotide at least 90 % identical to the polynucleotide of (a), (b), or (c).
- 26. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 40.
- 27. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 30.
- 28. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 25.
- 29. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 20.
- 30. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 15.
- 31. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 10.



- 32. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 5.
- 33. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is not more than 3.
 - 34. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, which is DNA.
- 35. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 25, comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1.

36. An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a Tetraspan-7 protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

An isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:13.

38. An isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 4, 2002, applicants have cancelled claims 1-22 and added claims 23-38, which are directed to polynucleotides of the invention. The claims are supported in the specification as filed, at least at page 1, line 17 to page 2, line 17; page 3, lines 6-8; page 7, lines 10-21; and page 12, lines 3-7.

Examination of these claims as one group and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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